

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-3 and 5-26 were pending in the application. Claims 5, 21-26 are cancelled. Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 6-20 are currently under consideration. Claims 1 and 13 are amended.

Amendment and cancellation of certain claims is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the amended and cancelled claims in a future continuation or divisional application.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. For the Examiner's convenience and reference, Applicants' remarks are presented in the order in which the corresponding issues were raised in the Office Action.

**A. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claims 1-3 and 5-20 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP3109328 in view of Elson (*Current Topics in Microbiology*, 146:29-33, 1989).

The Examiner has stated that Applicants' arguments are persuasive concerning the subject matter of previously pending claim 5 which specified: "wherein the inducing agent is the target antigen."

Without conceding the Examiner's grounds for rejection of the previously pending claim 1, and solely for the purpose of expediting issuance of allowable subject matter, Applicants amend claim 1 to specify "wherein the inducing agent is the target antigen." Claim 5 is cancelled due to redundancy.

The Examiner also objects to the recitation in claim 13 of the terms "before" and "after." Without conceding the Examiner's grounds for rejection of the previously pending claim 13, and solely for the purpose of expediting issuance of allowable subject matter, Applicants amend claim 13 to delete the terms "before" and "after."

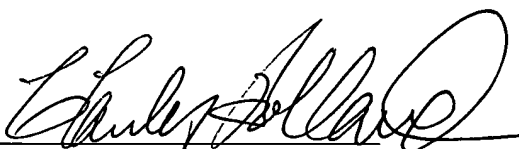
**CONCLUSION**

In light of the arguments set forth above, Applicants earnestly believe that they are entitled to a letters patent, and respectfully solicit the Examiner to expedite prosecution of this patent application to issuance. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant(s) petition(s) for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. (273802002200).

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Respectfully submitted,

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